

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please amend Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 12, 16-20, 23, 26, 28-32, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, 44, and 45 as
4 follows:

5 1. (Currently Amended) A method for initiating an action in regard to a document being
6 accessed by a user in an application, comprising the steps of:

7 (a) parsing a text entry made by a user in the document to identify at least one
8 linguistic component of the text entry;

9 (b) providing a plurality of tags, each of the plurality of tags having [[an]] a
10 corresponding tag action associated with it;

11 (c) comparing said at least one linguistic component to the plurality of tags to
12 determine at least one tag that corresponds to each linguistic component; and

13 (d) automatically carrying out the tag action associated with said at least one tag,
14 wherein the tag action exhibits at least one behavior in the document that is based on at least one of a
15 template and a schema associated with both the tag and the document.

16 2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein said at least one linguistic
17 component corresponds to a subset of the plurality of tags, said subset including at least two tags,
18 further comprising the step of displaying each tag in the subset to the user to enable the user to select
19 the tag corresponding to the linguistic component, so that the tag action associated with the tag
20 selected by the user is carried out.

21 3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

22 (a) determining a user dependent context as a function of an identity of a current
23 user of the application; and

24 (b) enabling only specific tags to be accessible by the current user as a function of
25 the user dependent context.

26 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

27 (a) determining a use dependent context as a function of a current use of the
28 document; and

29 (b) enabling only specific tags to be accessible by the current user as a function of
30 the use dependent context.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of providing the plurality
2 of tags comprises the steps of:

3 (a) specifying each of the plurality of tags as linguistic annotations and synonyms
4 thereof;

5 (b) defining the corresponding tag actions associated with each of the plurality of
6 linguistic annotations; and

7 (c) creating a tag catalog that includes the linguistic annotations, synonyms, and
8 tag actions for the plurality of tags in a semantic modeling format.

9 6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the document comprises a predefined schema
10 in which specific regions of the document are associated with a predefined group of tags.

11 7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, wherein [[an]] a tag action associated with
12 a tag provides input to another region of the predefined schema.

13 8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of parsing a text entry comprises the
14 steps of:

15 (a) applying a natural language recognizer to the text entry to produce a
16 normalized tree of the text entry;

17 (b) providing a dictionary that includes a plurality of instances that are returned in
18 response to a match with the normalized tree, a plurality of single words associated with each of the
19 plurality of instances, and a plurality of multiword phrases associated with each of the plurality of
20 instances; and

21 (c) comparing the normalized tree of the text entry to the dictionary to determine
22 at least one instance that will be returned as said at least one tag.

23 9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 8, wherein the dictionary also includes a
24 description of each of the plurality of instances, further comprising the step of enabling the user to
25 select a tag corresponding to an instance that should be used to carry out the tag action, from a
26 plurality of possible tags that are presented to the user if a single tag is not determined by the step of
27 comparing the normalized tree of the text entry to the dictionary.

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1 10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of tags accessible by a user are
2 dependent upon a role of the user in processing the document, further comprising the step of making
3 different sets of tags accessible in the document when the document is opened in the application by
4 users having different roles, each set of tags corresponding to a different role of the user in accessing
5 the document.

6 11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the document is opened in the application on
7 a client computing device and steps (b) and (c) are carried out on a server computing device.

8 12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the tags and corresponding tag
9 actions associated therewith are maintained in a catalog on a server that is accessed by each of a
10 plurality of users over a network.

11 13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of determining whether a
12 location in the document in which the user has just entered text is associated with any of the plurality
13 of tags.

14 14. (Original) A memory medium having machine readable instructions for carrying out
15 steps (a), (c), and (d) of Claim 1.

16 15. (Original) A memory medium having machine readable instructions for enabling a user
17 to carry out step (b) of Claim 1.

18 16. (Currently Amended) A method for automating actions in a document, based upon text
19 entered in the document by a user, comprising the steps of:

20 (a) parsing the text entered in the document by the user to recognize any key
21 words and key phrases included therein;

22 (b) identifying synonyms of key words recognized in the text entered by the user;

23 (c) comparing the key words, synonyms, and key phrases to words, and phrases
24 included in a predefined dictionary;

25 (d) returning an instance for any corresponding match between any of a key word
26 or synonym and a word in the dictionary, or between a key phrase and a phrase in the dictionary; and

27 (e) for an instance that is returned, automatically causing [[an]] a tag action
28 associated with said instance to be implemented in the document based on at least one of a template
29 and a schema associated with both the instance and the document.

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1 17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of displaying
2 multiple instances to the user for any case in which the text entered by the user in the document
3 causes multiple possible instances to be returned, to enable the user to select one of the multiple
4 instances so that [[an]] a tag action associated with said one of the multiple instances is implemented
5 in the document.

6 18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the tag action associated with
7 the instance that is returned causes an entry to be made in the document that is related to the text
8 entry by the user.

9 19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the dictionary and the tag
10 actions associated with the instances are contextually predefined, so that different instances and
11 associated tag actions are included for each different class of user accessing the document.

12 20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the dictionary and the tag
13 actions associated with the instances are contextually predefined, so that different instances and
14 associated tag actions are included for each different type of document among a plurality of different
15 types of documents.

16 21. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the document is derived from a schema with
17 which the dictionary is associated.

18 22. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the step of parsing the text comprises the
19 step of applying natural language grammar rules to the text entered by the user to identify the key
20 words and key phrases.

21 23. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the instance is associated with a
22 description, further comprising the step of displaying the description to the user to enable the user to confirm
23 the instance, prior to implementing the tag action associated with the instance.

24 24. (Original) The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of enabling the user to
25 add additional words and phrases associated with specific instances to the dictionary to create a user
26 lexicon.

27 25. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the step of parsing is carried out by
28 producing one or more parse trees for the text entered by the user, for comparison against
29 corresponding parse trees included in the dictionary.

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1 26. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 16, wherein the instances and tag actions are
2 maintained in a catalog on a server that is accessed by each of a plurality of users over a network.

3 27. (Original) A medium having machine readable instructions for carrying out steps of
4 Claim 16.

5 28. (Currently Amended) A system for automating actions in a document, based upon text
6 entered in the document by a user, comprising:

7 (a) a user input device enabling text input by a user;
8 (b) a display on which the document is displayed;
9 (c) a memory in which a plurality of machine instructions are stored; and
10 (d) a processing device coupled to the user input device, the memory, and the
11 display, said processing device executing the machine instructions, causing the processing device to
12 carry out a plurality of functions, including:

13 (i) parsing the text entered in the document by the user to recognize any
14 key words and key phrases included therein;

15 (ii) identifying synonyms of key words recognized in the text entered by a
16 user;

17 (iii) comparing the key words, synonyms, and key phrases to words, and
18 phrases included in a predefined dictionary;

19 (iv) returning an instance for any corresponding match between any of a
20 key word or synonym and a word in the dictionary, or between a key phrase and a phrase in the
21 dictionary; and

22 (v) for at least one instance that is returned, automatically causing an
23 associated tag action to be implemented in the document based on at least one of a template and a
24 schema associated with both the instance and the document.

25 29. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the machine instructions further
26 cause the processing device to display multiple instances on the display for any case in which the text
27 entered by a user in the document causes multiple possible instances to be returned, to enable a user
28 to select one of the multiple instances and implement [[an]] a tag action associated with said one of
29 the multiple instances in the document.

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1 30. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the tag action associated with the
2 instance causes the processing device to make an entry in the document that is related to the text
3 entered in the document by a user.

4 31. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the dictionary and the tag actions
5 associated with the instances are contextually predefined, so that different instances and associated
6 tag actions are included for each different class of user accessing the document.

7 32. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the dictionary and the tag actions
8 associated with the instances are contextually predefined, so that different instances and associated
9 tag actions are included for each different type of document among a plurality of different types of
10 documents.

11 33. (Original) The system of Claim 28, wherein the document is derived from a schema with
12 which the dictionary is associated.

13 34. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 28, wherein the processing device parses the
14 text by applying natural language grammar rules to the text entered by the user to identify the key
15 words and key phrases.

16 35. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the instance is associated with a
17 description, and wherein the machine instructions further cause the processing device to display the
18 description to the user to enable the user to confirm the instance, prior to implementing the tag action
19 associated with the instance.

20 36. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the machine instructions further
21 cause the processing device to enable a user to add additional words and phrases associated with
22 specific instances to the dictionary to create a user lexicon.

23 37. (Original) The system of Claim 28, wherein the processing device parses the text by
24 producing one or more parse trees for the text entered by a user, for comparison against
25 corresponding parse trees included in the dictionary.

26 38. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 28, wherein the instances and tag actions are
27 communicated from a remote site to the processing device over a network in a markup language format.

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1 39. (Currently Amended) A method for specifying actions that will be carried out in a
2 document in response to a text entry by a user in the document by returning a tag corresponding to
3 the text, comprising the steps of:

4 (a) creating a dictionary that includes linguistic constructs and other metadata
5 relating to natural text that can be entered by a user to activate tags from within the document;

6 (b) in respect to a template from which the document is produced, associating
7 [[an]] a tag action with each tag that can thus be activated;

8 (c) storing the tags and corresponding tag actions associated with the tags for the
9 template in a catalog that is maintained at a site centrally accessible over a network by each of a
10 plurality of users;

11 (d) enabling any of the plurality of users to produce the document based upon the
12 template, using a productivity software application; and

13 (e) providing the dictionary, and the tags and the tag actions associated with the
14 tags in respect to the template to a user who is working on the document in the productivity software
15 application, to enable the text entered by the user to be recognized as corresponding to one of the
16 tags, so that the tag action associated with said one of the tags is carried out in the document based on
17 the template, the template being associated with both the document and said one of the tags.

18 40. (Original) The method of Claim 39, further comprising the step of employing the
19 linguistic constructs and other metadata in the dictionary to recognize text entered by the user as
20 corresponding to at least one tag.

21 41. (Original) The method of Claim 40, wherein a plurality of prospective tags are
22 recognized as possibly corresponding to the text entered by the user, further comprising the step of
23 enabling the user to select a tag from among the plurality of prospective tags, so that the tag action
24 associated with the tag thus selected is carried out in the document.

25 42. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 39, wherein the tags and tag actions
26 associated with the tags are context sensitive, responding to at least one of:

27 (a) a specific user who is currently working on the document;

28 (b) a role of the user who is currently working on the document; and

29 (c) a type of document.

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1 43. (Original) A medium having machine readable instructions for carrying out the steps of
2 Claim 39.

3 44. (Currently Amended) A system on which are specified actions that will be carried out in
4 a document in response to a text entry by a user in the document by returning a tag corresponding to
5 the text, comprising:

6 (a) a memory in which machine instructions and data are stored, said data
7 including a plurality of tags and tag actions associated with the tags in regard to a template on which
8 the document is based;

9 (b) a network interface that communicates with a plurality of remote computing
10 devices over a network;

11 (c) a processing device that is coupled in communication with the memory and the
12 network interface, said processing device executing the machine instructions stored in the memory to
13 carry out a plurality of functions, including:

14 (i) enabling the tags and tag actions associated with the tags to be centrally
15 maintained; and

16 (ii) enabling any of a plurality of remote computing devices to access and
17 download the tags and tag actions associated with the tags over a network for use in carrying out the
18 tag action associated with any tag that corresponds to text entered in the document.

19 45. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 44, wherein the memory stores a dictionary
20 of words and linguistic constructs relating to text that can be entered in the document and which
21 correspond to the tags, said machine instructions further causing the processing device to transfer the
22 dictionary to any of the plurality of remote computing devices that is accessing and downloading the
23 tags and tag actions associated with the tags, said dictionary being usable to recognize the tag
24 associated with the text.